

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 1-9 and 14-20, and AMEND claims 12 and 13 in accordance with the following:

1-9 CANCELED

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus, comprising:
at least one processing target unit image;
a plurality of vacant unit storage areas arranged in a matrix to have images inserted;
and
a control unit controlling an access to each of the unit storage areas,
wherein the control unit stores the at least one processing target unit image in at least one of the plurality of vacant unit storage areas, accesses the unit storage areas in a predetermined sequence, and thereby generates a composite image from the unit images.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising:
unit storage areas having different capacities,
wherein the composite image is composed of the unit images having different dimensions.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A storage medium readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising:

displaying a composite area on a display of the machine as an aggregation of vacant unit areas arranged in a matrix into which images are insertable; and

inserting a-processing target images into selected ones of the vacant ~~at least one of the~~ unit areas within the composite area.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A storage medium readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising:

displaying a composite area as an aggregation of vacant unit areas arranged in a matrix into which images are insertable;

detecting an indication of a processing target image;

detecting a transfer of the indicated image; and

inserting the indicated image into one of the vacant ~~a transfer destination~~ unit areas.

14-20 CANCELED

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

a controlling unit for dividing a portion of a display into a predetermined composite area, wherein the composite area includes a plurality of vacant blocks arranged in a matrix and each of the plurality of blocks may have a processing target image inserted from a source or any of the plurality of blocks may be left vacant;

an operation unit aggregating the matrix of the plurality of blocks, whether filled with an image or vacant into a combined image.

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the image inserted into the block is transferable to other blocks within the composite area.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the image inserted into the block is deleted by transferring the same image to a position outside the composite area.

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the processing target image is inserted into the block by a drag-and-drop operation.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:

a transfer detection unit indicating a processing target image and detecting a transfer of

the indicated image,

wherein the indicated image is inserted into the block.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the composite area into which the images are inserted is stored as an image having predetermined dimensions.

27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:

a related image indicating module relating a plurality of target images to each other, wherein when a first target image is related to other images, the related images are consecutively inserted together as a group with the first target image into the plurality of blocks.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 27, wherein when the number of images to be inserted exceeds the number of insertable vacant blocks, the image insertion is finished.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the composite area is composed of blocks having different dimensions.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein dimensions of the blocks are specified irrespective of dimensions of the processing target image, and
the processing target image is adjusted to the dimensions of the block that accepts the inserted image.

31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the number of the blocks within the composite area can be arbitrarily set.

32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein a background color of the blocks can be arbitrarily set.

33. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein a configuration of the blocks is a rectangular shape of which dimensions can be

arbitrarily set.

34. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 23, wherein even when the image inserted into the block is deleted, an original image of the image inset in the block is not deleted.

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein dimensions of the composite area can be arbitrarily set.

36. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the plurality of target images are consecutively inserted into the plurality of blocks starting from an arbitrarily specified block within the composite area matrix.